

# **BEAR LAKE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN PRELIMINARY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (August 2008)**

The Bear Lake Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) Preliminary Goals and Objectives Statements provide the guidelines that will be used to develop management plan alternative strategies. The Goals and Objectives respond to the issues and opportunities identified in the Issue Statements. The Goals give a description of the desired future resource conditions at Bear Lake, while the Objectives define those activities required to achieve each Goal. The Preliminary Goals and Objectives Statements are divided into the following Issue Categories: (A) Public Outreach and Partnerships, (B) Water Resources, (C) Recreation and Scenic Resources, (D) Natural and Cultural Resources, and (E) Land Management.

## **Goal Category A: Public Outreach and Partnerships**

### **Goal A1: Communication and Information Dissemination Between Resource Agencies and Stakeholders Improved**

#### **Objectives:**

- A.1.1 Participate in an annual conference with resource agencies and special interest groups to help educate the general public on management of sovereign lands and to improve communication between agencies, land owners, stakeholders, and user groups.
- A.1.2 Work with partners to develop concise public information materials concerning such items as the following:
  - Overall guide map to public recreational facilities, including restricted areas
  - Recreational facility characteristics and capacities
  - Recreational use guidelines and regulations
  - Boating etiquette, safety regulations, and waste management
  - Environmental interpretation and education
  - Hunting and fishing regulations
- A.1.3 Ensure adequate dissemination of public information through the availability of materials at public facilities and through cooperation with surrounding jurisdictions, chambers of commerce, businesses, and interest groups.
- A.1.4 Facilitate seasonal meetings with adjacent land owners, day users, and nearby communities to anticipate the issues for the summer season and follow up for feed-back and evaluation.

### **Goal A2: Cooperation and Coordination With Resource Agencies and Stakeholders Improved**

**Objectives:**

- A.2.1 Explore additional partnerships with resource agencies and user groups that could mutually improve management of Bear Lake sovereign lands.
- A.2.2 Collaborate with County, State, and Federal agencies to implement CMP action items and monitor progress.

**Goal A3: Knowledge of Recreational Visitation, Resource Impacts, and Ecological Processes Increased**

**Objectives:**

- A.3.1 Identify information gaps and facilitate data collection and studies as appropriate.

**Goal Category B: Water Resources**

**Goal B1: Threats to Water Quality in Bear Lake from Use of Sovereign Lands Diminished**

**Objectives:**

- B.1.1 Identify water quality impacts coming from sovereign lands leases and uses, and develop mechanisms to mitigate problem areas to help maintain State beneficial use designations.
- B.1.2 Identify areas where additional sanitation facilities (e.g., restrooms, refuse containers) are needed.

**Goal B2: Sovereign Lands Management and Water Operations Coordinated**

**Objectives:**

- B.2.1 Identify and describe water rights and their relationship to sovereign lands management.
- B.2.2 Describe and chronicle the affects of reservoir water operations on recreation, concessions, landowners, park facilities, and natural resources.
- B.2.3 Communicate with PacifiCorp to understand annual water level projections and adjust sovereign lands management accordingly.

**Goal Category C: Recreation and Scenic Resources**

**Goal C1: Safe and Quality Recreational Opportunities That Minimize Conflicts Provided**

**Objectives:**

- C.1.1 Identify appropriate recreational use areas on sovereign lands.
- C.1.2 Identify land-based capacities for recreation activities, leases, and uses on sovereign lands.
- C.1.3 Work with adjacent communities to coordinate infrastructure needs and supporting developments.
- C.1.4 Explore ways to increase safety and security, and reduce user conflicts.
- C.1.5 Evaluate existing recreational facilities and determine appropriate levels of expansion, as needed.
- C.1.6 Explore the possibility of providing wakeless zones adjacent to certain recreation areas.

**Goal C2: Adequate Recreational Support Facilities to Meet Demand Provided**

**Objectives:**

- C.2.1 Recommend appropriate recreational facilities at appropriate locations.
- C.2.2 Recommend facility improvements and visitor needs (e.g., accessibility).
- C.2.3 Explore the need for additional public boat launches and boat docks and/or marinas.
- C.2.4 Recommend a mechanism for a “one stop shopping” program to secure permits.
- C.2.5 Evaluate the need to implement fee programs as a way to provide funding for management of facilities on sovereign lands.

**Goal C3: Scenic Resources Protected and Enhanced**

**Objectives:**

- C.3.1 Coordinate with County and municipal governments on protecting scenic resources on lands surrounding Bear Lake.
- C.3.2 Ensure that the location and design of all new facilities on sovereign lands, as well as maintenance and replacement of existing facilities, is compatible with the natural and cultural environments of the Bear Lake area.

## **Goal Category D: Natural and Cultural Resources**

### **Goal D1: Noxious and Invasive Weeds, Pests, and Aquatic Nuisances Controlled and Managed**

#### **Objectives:**

- D.1.1 Identify the location and extent of noxious and invading weeds, pests, and aquatic nuisances.
- D.1.2 Initiate development of an Integrated Pest Management Plan.
- D.1.3 Coordinate with appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies to control noxious and invading weeds, pests, and aquatic nuisances.
- D.1.4 Develop an appropriate plant list for future planting, erosion control, and habitat restoration activities.

### **Goal D2: Bear Lake Fishery Protected and Enhanced**

#### **Objectives:**

- D.2.1 Coordinate with the UDWR to identify possible fishery enhancement opportunities on sovereign lands.
- D.2.2 Work to find mutually agreeable strategies for reducing conflicts between anglers and recreational boaters.
- D.2.3 Identify and protect important fish habitat areas on sovereign lands.

### **Goal D3: Native Vegetation and Wildlife Habitat Areas Protected and Enhanced**

#### **Objectives:**

- D.3.1 Identify occurrences of known threatened, endangered, or special status species on sovereign lands.
- D.3.2 Identify sensitive vegetation and wildlife habitat areas.
- D.3.3 Identify areas of protection at suitable locations to conserve long-term, viable habitat for a variety of wildlife and fish species.
- D.3.4 Cooperate with appropriate entities in managing sovereign lands and protecting fish and wildlife resources.

D.3.5 Protect wetland and riparian vegetation areas in accordance with existing Federal and State regulations.

D.3.6 Develop an appropriate plant list for future planting, erosion control, and habitat restoration activities.

**Goal D4: Appropriate Vegetation Management on Sovereign Lands Allowed**

**Objectives:**

D.4.1 Identify appropriate vegetation management practices for sovereign lands.

**Goal D5: Un-Natural Erosion Controlled**

**Objectives:**

D.5.1 Identify human-caused erosion problem locations.

D.5.2 Work with water users, State Parks, and other entities as appropriate to implement erosion control strategies as necessary.

**Goal D6: Cultural Resources Protected and Managed**

**Objectives:**

D.6.1 Protect the integrity and eligibility of cultural resources, including historic, prehistoric, and paleontological resources, wherever development is proposed.

D.6.2 Recommend mechanisms to protect, preserve, restore, recognize, and interpret historic, prehistoric, and paleontological resource sites.

**Goal Category E: Land Management**

**Goal E1: Appropriate and Safe Access to Public Use Areas Provided**

**Objectives:**

E.1.1 Identify the location and extent of access rights-of-way and easements, and provide appropriate directional signage for visitors.

E.1.2 Evaluate the feasibility and identify appropriate locations for accessible boating and fishing facilities.

E.1.3 Identify public parking problems and explore options for improvements.

- E.1.4 Restrict access to sensitive areas where public safety and natural resources protection are concerns (e.g., sensitive fish and wildlife habitat, hazardous areas).

**Goal E2: Special Use Permitting and Leases on Sovereign Lands Facilitated, as Appropriate**

**Objectives:**

- E.2.1 Assure an open and public process in the issuance of leases and general permits using the Resource Development Coordinating Committee to provide review, comment, and stipulation opportunities for proposed development.
- E.2.2. Provide leases, permits, Rights of Entries, and Letters of Authorization where appropriate and within the policies developed in the Bear Lake CMP.
- E.2.3. Identify appropriate areas for lease categories.
- E.2.4. Provide for appropriate stipulations and terms for permitting and leases on sovereign lands.
- E.2.5. Coordinate with upland jurisdictions to create policies consistent with existing land use zoning ordinances.
- E.2.6 Bring into compliance all existing land uses on sovereign lands that are currently out of compliance with appropriate permits, leases or other legal instruments consistent with the Bear Lake CMP.

**Goal E3: Sovereign Lands Boundary Settlements Completed**

**Objectives:**

- E.3.1 Reaffirm the state's position of the 5923.65 foot elevational boundary for sovereign lands on the Utah side of Bear Lake.
- E.3.2. Settle boundaries with upland owners and have recorded settlements in place.

**Goal E4: Minerals Withdrawl on Sovereign Lands at Bear Lake Maintained**

**Objectives:**

- E.4.1 Remove the subsurface mineral estate from minerals extraction by placing an administrative withdrawl on the sovereign lands at Bear Lake.